

## **BIG BELLY TRASHES CANS IN CITY PARKS**

### **SOLAR POWERED BINS WILL SAVE MONEY AND INCREASE CITY'S SUSTAINABILITY**

Demonstrating commitment to Mayor Greg Ballard's vision of a more sustainable city and better, more cost effective service, the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Indy Parks and Recreation have trashed several collection cans throughout the parks system. Fifty-three of the old cans have been replaced with new BigBelly trash collection units. The units are expected to save money, fuel, and increase sustainability by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

BigBelly trash cans are solar-powered, cordless compaction systems that use the sun's energy to automatically compact trash. The BigBelly container can hold five times the amount of an average trash can; it reduces collection trips and can cut related fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent. BigBelly's enclosed design also deters scavenging animals and unpleasant odors.

The units have been installed in smaller park facilities to allow city officials to test the efficiency of the units and track cost savings before expanding installation to other areas. Within the next two weeks, a wireless monitoring system will be activated within the solar trash compactors. The remote monitoring system will alert city collection crews when the units are ready for pick up. DPW will monitor collection activity regularly, optimizing collection efficiency and maximizing savings.

The BigBelly units cost the city about \$3,500 each. Annual savings as a result of fuel and labor costs are estimated at \$250,000.

Bigbellies have been installed at the following park locations:

Rutherford  
Perry  
Bel Aire  
Akeman  
Copper Grove  
Franklin  
Pogues Run  
Facility  
Bellamy  
Holliday  
61<sup>st</sup> & Broadway  
Wish  
Gateway West  
Upper Fall Creek  
Orange  
Garfield  
Hanover

Paul Ruster  
Emhardt  
Bluff  
Marott  
Dubarry  
Lacy  
Gustafson  
Watson Road  
James Foster Gains  
Hendricks  
Upper Fall Creek Dam  
Southside  
Southwestway  
Basswood  
Acton  
Sandorf  
Skiles Test  
Chapel Hill  
Gardner  
Sahm  
Brookside  
O'Brien  
Derby Hill  
Town Run  
Thompson  
Carson  
Tolin  
Raymond  
Kelly  
Greene  
Friedman  
Stout Field  
Northwestway  
Canterbury  
Highland  
Robey  
Eagle Highlands

